

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, NU
SUBJECT: ALLEGED CAPITALIST PLOT

SUMMARY: IN EARLY AUGUST, THE GROUP OF TWELVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY HAD SECURED A COPY OF AN ALLEGED PLOT BY MEMBERS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE GON. THIS PLOT ALLEGEDLY WOULD MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO IN NICARAGUA. "THE TWELVE" HAVE ALLEGED THAT THE USG IS BEHIND THE PLOT. END SUMMARY.

1. EMB HAS OBTAINED AN EIGHT-PAGE PHOTOCOPY OF A DOCUMENT DATED 24 JULY 1978 WHICH ALLEGEDLY REPRESENTS A PLAN OF ACTION BY MEMBERS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR. THE DOCUMENT SEPARATES NICARAGUA'S CURRENT CRISIS INTO TWO SECTIONS, POLITIC AND ECONOMIC, AND PROCEEDS TO ANALYZE EACH-GIVING ALTERNATIVE PLANS OF ACTION TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION.

2. POLITICAL: THE DOCUMENT TRACES THE CURRENT CRISIS TO THREE ORIGINS: A) THE "PERMANENT ACTION" OF THE
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FSLN, B) SPECULATION OVER THE HEALTH OF SOMOZA, AND
C) THE DEATH OF PEDRO JOAQUIN CHAMORRO. SINCE 10 JANUARY (CHAMORRO'S ASSASSINATION), THE OPPOSITION TO SOMOZA HAS INTENSIFIED AND COALESCED AROUND A CALL FOR HIS RESIGNATION. THE DOCUMENT CONCLUDES THAT THE PRESSURE AGAINST SOMOZA IS ORGANIZED BY THE FSLN. THE BALANCE OF THE OPPOSITION IS DISORGANIZED, LACKS POPULAR SUPPORT, AND FUNCTIONS

WITH THE AID OF KNOWN COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA. (NOTE:
READ LA PRENSA. END NOTE)

3. THE DOCUMENT ANALYZES THE CURRENT SITUATION AND
FUTURE PROSPECTS AS FOLLOWS: THE ONLY SOLUTION OF THE
OPPOSITION IS THAT "SOMOZA MUST LEAVE TODAY AT WHATEVER
PRICE AN NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO BELIEVE OTHERWISE". (NOTE:
THIS THE DOCUMENT DEFINES AS "ANTI-SOMOCISTA
DICTATORSHIP". END NOTE). THE MEANS TO THIS
END IS "AGITATION THROUGH CERTAIN MASS COMMUNICATIONS
MEDIA AND NON-DEMOCRATIC GROUPS OF THE EXTREME LEFT.
FACED WITH CONSISTENT LEADERSHIP, THE ATTEMPT IS TO
BRING YOUTH AND WORKERS TO A PUPULAR REVELLION WITH
UNSUSPECTED CONSEQUENCES." THE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS
AGITATION ARE: "GROWING REPRESSION UNDER A DE FACTO
CO-GOVERNMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC WITH
THE ARMED FORCES; ANARCHY; POSSIBLE MILITARY COUP."

4. THE POLITICAL SECTION OF THE DOCUMENT CONCLUDES BY
SAYING, "IT IS UNDENIABLE THAT ANTI-SOMOZA FEELING HAS
PERMEATED, ON A NATIONAL LEVEL, THE YOUTH AND FAMILIES
OF LW INCOME...IT IS ALSO A CERTAIN FACT THAT THE
FSLN HAS GAINED GREAT SYMPATHY, A CERTAIN LEGITIMACY,
AND AMPLE EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL EXPOSURE."

5. ECONOMIC: THE ECONOMIC CRISIS IS PRINCIPALLY THE
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RESULT OF THE CONCENTRATION OF EFFORTS AND RESOURCES
BY THE GON ON THE POLITICAL CIRSIS AND THE COMPETING
FORCES OF AGITATION AND REPRESSION. THIS, PLUS THE
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE GON, UNITED WITH THE LACK
OF PROPER ATTENTION TO SPECIFIC PRODUCTION PROBLEMS,
HAS AGGRAVATED INFLATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT AND ADVANCED
THE POSSIBILITIES OF POPULAR REBELLION. WHILE IT IS
IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY WHETHER THE POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC
CRISIS IS THE MORE IMPORTANT, ANY SOLUTION TO THE CRISES
IMPLIES AN INTERACTION BETWEEN THE TWO AND, "THE
POLITICAL IS THE KEY TO OPENING DIVERSE POSSIBILITIES."

6. THE PROBLEM: THE PROBLEM CONFRONTING THE COUNTRY
IS AGITATION VS. REPRESSION. AGITATION HAS AS ITS
ONLY GOAL "THE TOPPLING FROM POWER OF THE SOMOZA
FAMILY, WITHOUT REGARD FOR WHAT FOLLOWS". REPRESSION
IS DESIGNED TO DEFEND AT ANY COST THE GON.

7. ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS: GIVEN THE SITUATION,
VIGOROUS ACTION IS REQUIRED. THE EXTEMISTS CAN BE
PLACATED OR THE GON CAN BE SUPPORTED. ADDITIONALLY,
A PATRIOTIC REORIENTATION TOWARD "RE-ESTABLISHING

PEACE AND PRESERVING MORAL VALUES" IS POSSIBLE. THE ONLY SECTORS CAPABLE OF ACTIVATING SUCH A REORIENTATION ARE THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE CHURCH. THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN SUCH A PLAN WOULD BE SOMOZA AND THE GN. CIVIC PROTEST WOULD REMAIN POSSIBLE, BUT AGITATION WOULD BE ELIMINATED.

8. STRATEGY FOR THIRD ALTERNATIVE: BEGIN QUOTE-

A) INTELLIGENTLY CONVENE THE CAPITALIST GROUP MOST REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COUNTRY, B) ANALYZE THE SITUATION AND, BASED UPON AGREEMENT, DESIGNATE A COMMISSION NOT TO EXCEED THREE PERSONS TO: 1) VISIT AND EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO THE ARCHBISHOP AND INVITE HIM, IF HE AGREES, TO JOIN THE COMMISSION. IF HE DOES NOT JOIN, THE COMMISSION WILL CONTINUE ITS WORK; 2) UNDER THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BANNER OF "CAPITAL AND CHURCH," MEET WITH A SELECTED GROUP OF OWNERS OF COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA WHO ARE INFLUENCING THE CAMPAIGN OF AGITATION (ONE WRITTEN MEDIUM, ONE TV MEDIUM, AND TWO RADIO STATIONS). IF AN UNDERSTANDING CANNOT BE REACHED TO REORIENT INFORMATION ALONG OBJECTIVE BASES, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO RESORT TO OTHER OBVIOUS MECHANISMS, C) PROGRAM VARIOUS MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC WITH A VIEW TOWARD WORKING OUT SOLUTIONS IN THE MUTUAL NATIONAL INTEREST.

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IT IS CLEAR THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL ALWAYS ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH POLITICAL CRITERIA, AND THIS IS MENTIONED ONLY TO KEEP IT ALWAYS PRESENT SO AS NOT TO OVERENTHUSE ONESELF OR FAIL TO BE CANDID. UPON RESOLVING POINT B, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ATTEMPT THE FIRST CONTACT TO REQUEST AN AUDIENCE FOR A MEETING TO INCLUDE THE PRESIDENT, THE GENERAL STAFF, AND THE COMMISSION. IN THE FIRST MEETING, THE SITUATION IN WHICH WE FIND OURSELVES AND ITS PERSPECTIVES WOULD BE REVIEWED WITH OBJECTIVITY AND INDEPENDENCE, AND AT ITS CONCLUSION, THE GOVERNMENT MUST DEFINITELY UNDERSTAND THAT THE FIRST STEP BELONGS TO IT, IN EXCHANGE FOR WHICH THE COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA WILL CHANNEL INFORMATION WITH TRUE OBJECTIVITY. THE CUTTING EDGE MUST BE THAT CIVIL RIGHTS ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE AND, THEREFORE, PEACEFUL CIVIC PROTESTS WILL CONTINUE. D) SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE PROGRAMATION OF C, TO DETERMINE A METHOD OF CONTACT WITH THE POLITICAL PARTIES HAVING A MINIMUM ORGANIZATION AND IN TUNE WITH THE GOALS OF THE COMMISSION AND THE INTERESTS OF CAPITAL AND THE CHURCH.

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POSSIBILITIES APPARENTLY EXIST ONLY WITH THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY AND THE CONSTITUTIONALIST MOVEMENT (NOTE: HEADED BY RAMIRO SACASA. END NOTE). INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS CAN BE HELD TO EVALUATE THE SITUATION AND ATTEMPT TO DEFINE POSSIBILITIES AND BASES OF INDEPENDENT BUT COORDINATED WORK. E) THE FOUR PREVIOUS POINTS (ARE) A FIRST STAGE, BUT, AT THE SAME TIME, THE MOST DIFFICULT TASK. ALL SUBSEQUENT ACTION OF THE COMMISSION IS PREDICATED UPON THE SUCCESS OBTAINED. ACTION A, B, AND D MUST NOT TAKE LONGER THAN ONE WEEK. SUBSEQUENT STAGES WILL BE DEFINED. END QUOTE.

9. COMMENT: THIS EXTRAORDINARY UNSIGNED DOCUMENT HAS BEEN MUCH COMMENTED UPON. THE TWELVE, WHO MADE ITS EXISTENCE PUBLIC, HAVE ALLEGED THAT THE USG IS BEHIND IT AND THAT IT WAS WRITTEN IN THE EMB. MUGUEL D'ESCOTO HAS BEEN THE MOST OUTSPOKEN IN THIS REGARD. IN RAPID SUCCESSION, THE DOCUMENT WAS DENOUNCED BY ALFREDO PELLAS (BANLO DE AMERICA GROUP), ALFONSO ROBELO (MDN), RAMIRO SACASA (MLC), RENE SANDINO (PCN), THE ARCHBISHOP EDUARDO MONTEALEGRE (BANIC), FRANCISCO LAINEZ (EX-PRESIDENT, BANCO CENTRAL), AND OTHERS. THE OPPOSITION HAS TERMED THE PLOT AS BEING AN "ANTI-PEOPLE" PLOT DESIGNED TO IMPOSE A RIGHT-WING GOVERNMENT. THE

GON HAS MADE NO COMMENT UPON THE DOCUMENT. THE REFERENCES TO THE COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA ARE SEEN BY EMB AS SINGLING OUT LA PRENSA, TV CHANNEL 2, RADIO "MI PREFERIDA" AND EITHER RADIO CORPORACION OR MUNDIAL FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION AS FORMENTING AGITATION. THE PLAN ITSELF (IF BONA FIDE), AS WELL AS THE TIMING OF ITS SURFACING, MAY BE AN INDICATION OF GROWING APPREHENSION AMONG PRIVATE SECTOR PERSONALITIES OVER A PERCEIVED DRIFT TOWARD CHAOS AND MAY BE READ AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEMONSTRATING THE EXISTENCE OF AN INCIPIENT CONSERVATIVE BACKLASH. HOWEVER, UNTIL SUCH TIME AS MORE SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE OF ITS AUTHENTICITY AND AUTHORSHIP SURFACES, IT MUST BE CONSIDERED AS SUSPECT.
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